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ABSTRACT

To ensure that every child receives appropriate educational and developmental support, professionals who make referrals and who rely on psychological test results need to understand what these tests measure. The principles behind psychological testing, the definitions of key terminology, and the ways in which psychologists interpret test data are covered in this text. The book, divided into 10 chapters, uses lay terms to explain the validity and reliability of widely used measures of intelligence, special abilities, behavioral and emotional status, and academic achievement. Chapter 1 begins with an overview of the principles of psychological testing, including uniformity, quantifiability, and normative comparison. How to formulate hypotheses and make a referral is covered in chapter 2. Chapters 3-5 deal with different age-level scales, and include descriptions of infant scales, preschool tests, and school-age intelligence and ability tests. Tests of academic achievement are featured in chapter 6, and chapter 7 focuses on diagnosing children's and adolescents' emotional problems. This latter theme is continued in chapter 8 in which the neuropsychological assessment of children and adolescents is covered. Chapter 9 discusses special testing considerations, such as autism and health issues, and chapter 10 explores the use and evaluation of test findings. Contains approximately 400 references, a glossary, and a full index. (RJM)

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